



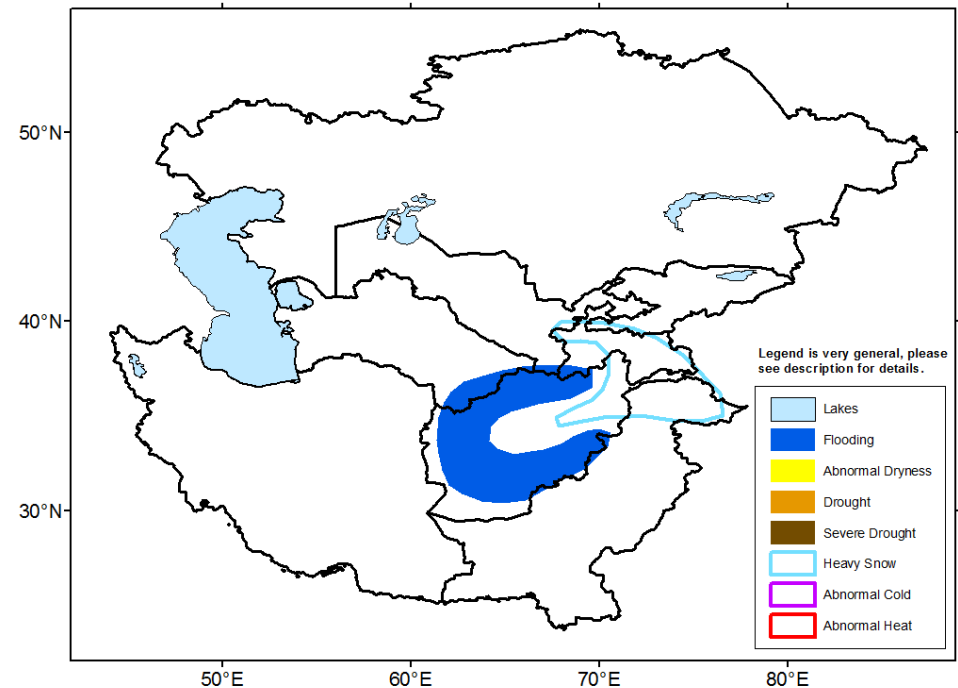
## Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook March 23 - 29, 2017

### **Temperatures:**

During mid-March, slightly below-normal temperatures were observed across Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, southern Uzbekistan, and eastern Tajikistan. In contrast, above-normal temperatures were registered in western Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, central and northern Afghanistan. In Afghanistan, temperatures averaged 2-7 degrees Celsius above-normal, sustaining continued snowmelt. During the next week, normal to above-normal temperatures are forecast over Central Asia. Additionally, maximum temperature is expected to average between 20-30 degrees Celsius across the southern portions of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, and the low-lying areas of Afghanistan, potentially increasing snowmelt.

### **Precipitation**

From March 14-20, light to locally moderate precipitation was observed across the central portions of Central Asia, including southern Uzbekistan, western Tajikistan, northern and southern Afghanistan. Over the past thirty days, below-average precipitation was registered over Afghanistan, according to gauge analysis and satellite precipitation estimates. Although, most basins showed a continued decline in snow water equivalent due to snowmelt, most remained above-average, maintaining risks for localized flooding. During the next week, a return of widespread, heavy precipitation is forecast over Afghanistan, which may lead to flash flooding across the northern, western, and southern areas. Heavy snow is also expected in the northeastern mountains of Afghanistan.



**Note:** The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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